

BLACK HILLS BANDIT

Vol. 30, Issue 6

Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D. — 2004 Air Combat Command Newspaper of the Year

February 10, 2006

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WEATHER



Today
High 28° Low 20°



Saturday
High 30° Low 20°



Sunday
High 40° Low 28°

Provided by the Ellsworth Weather Station.

COUNTDOWN TO THE ORI



152
Days

ORE shows base progress toward ORI

By Senior Airman Joshua G. Moshier
BLACK HILLS BANDIT STAFF

Official grades for the 28th Bomb Wing's Phase II Operational Readiness Exercise Jan. 30 through Feb. 1 weren't available by press time, however, exercise officials stressed the wing is headed in the right direction.

"The wing is making progress," said Lt. Col. Lucien Grise, 28th BW wing plans division chief. "We're learning what still needs work, and we're identifying solutions for the problems we've encountered."

The fact the wing is progressing toward a satisfactory performance in July's operational readiness inspection should be especially encouraging considering one of the key squadrons involved was participating for the first time.

"Considering the 37th Bomb Squadron hasn't participated in an exercise in eight months, they did real well," said Senior Master Sgt. Larry Osborne, 28th BW wing plans division superintendent.

Exercise officials pointed out several areas that showed improvement from the Phase II ORE held in November. Among those were bug-out procedures, ability to survive and operate, and the 28th Security Forces Squadron's defense of critical assets. Officials also said exercise participants showed a better familiarity with the Airman's Manual.

However, there is still room for improvement.

"On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 representing where we need to be for a satisfactory score across the board for the ORI, I'd say we're at about a 7.5," said Master Sgt. Paul Reiter, 28th BW wing exercises and evaluations superintendent. "Attitude is really the only thing left for us to improve upon."

Exercise officials hope to see more urgency from exercise participants.

"People need to take the exercise more seriously," Sergeant Osborne said. "We've had lots of exercises, and we've got more to come, but everyone needs to get in the frame of mind that this isn't a game - we're training for the ORI."

That includes every Ellsworth member. "The July ORI is a wing tasking, and we will very definitely give a wing response," said Col. Jeffry Smith, 28th BW commander. "All Airmen are either directly playing in the inspection or supporting it in one way or another. I have every confidence we'll do extremely well."



Photo by Airman 1st Class Melissa Flores
Second Lt. Sarah Ortnor, 28th Logistics Readiness Squadron fuel flight deputy flight commander, dons her chemical warfare gear during the operational readiness exercise Jan. 30. The ORE was designed to prepare Team Ellsworth for the July inspection.



Ellsworth Numbers

Members Deployed

363
(as of Monday)

*Number provided by the
28th Logistics Readiness Squadron.*

28th Bomb Wing Monthly Flying Goals

(as of Wednesday)

34th Bomb Squadron Sorties deployed

117 **30**

Goal Flown

Last Foreign Object Damage Jan. 13

*Information provided by the
28th Maintenance Operations Squadron.*

28th Bomb Wing Honor Guard

(as of Today)

74 **300**

This Week This Year

8 **37**

This Week This Year

68 **357**

This Week This Year

The Honor Guard always needs volunteers.

*For more information, call Staff Sgt.
Robert Morgan at 385-1186.*

Airmen Against Drunk Driving

14 **39**

This Week This Year

*If getting home means driving
under the influence, call
AADD instead.*

431-2953 Volunteers:

Master Sgt. Bryan Croulet

28th Medical Operations Squadron

Airman 1st Class Steven Smith

28th Maintenance Squadron

Mrs. Nekelle Smith

Ellsworth family member

Cub scouts race home-made pinewood cars

Story and photos by Airman Kimberly Limrick
BLACK HILLS BANDIT STAFF

Base Cub Scouts met at Dakota's Club Feb. 3 for their annual Pinewood Derby race.

Little has changed in the Pinewood derby since it began in 1953. The goal of the race is to have scouts design a car to race in the derby.

The scouts, ranging in ages from 6 to 12, carved their 'race cars' out of a block of

pinewood. The wood, four nails and four wheels are provided and required to be used. Parents were permitted to help their children design a car to meet size restrictions, said Mrs. Sharon Raynor, Cub master.

Upon arrival at Dakota's, the scouts presented their cars at the qualification table. The maximum weight allowed was 5 ounces; cars may be no more than 2 3/4 inches wide and 7 inches long and may have no moving parts other than the wheels provided.

After meeting the qualification requirements, the scouts' cars competed against others in their age groups, two at a time. First graders competed in the Tigers group, second graders competed in the Wolves group, third graders competed in the Bears group and the fourth and fifth graders competed in the Webelos group.

The competition was double-elimination, meaning if the car lost twice, it was out of the competition. Winners from each

group move on to compete at the Black Hills Area Council competition in the Rushmore Mall, March 4, said Mr. Rodney Brown, Den leader.

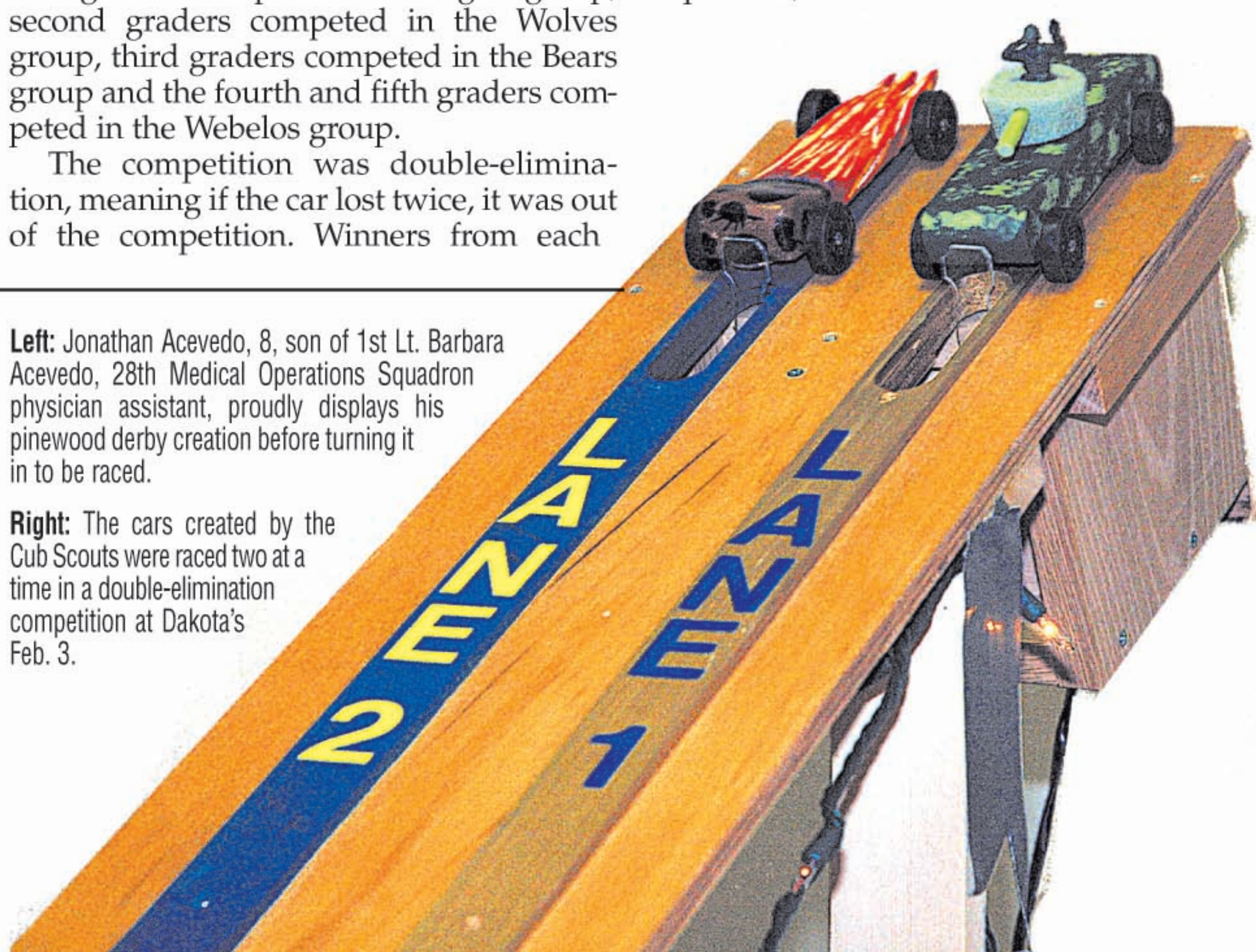
Mr. Don Murphy, founder of the Pinewood Derby in 1953 in Manhattan, Beach, Calif., said he wanted to devise a wholesome, constructive activity that would foster a closer father-son relationship and promote craftsmanship and good sportsmanship through competition.

The Pinewood Derby is only one of the many activities Cub Scouts get to participate in. For more Cub Scout information, call Master Sgt. Jesse Barcega, 28th Services Squadron, at 385-2262.



Left: Jonathan Acevedo, 8, son of 1st Lt. Barbara Acevedo, 28th Medical Operations Squadron physician assistant, proudly displays his pinewood derby creation before turning it in to be raced.

Right: The cars created by the Cub Scouts were raced two at a time in a double-elimination competition at Dakota's Feb. 3.



Straight Talk

is a forum for the Ellsworth community to voice any suggestions or concerns about Ellsworth directly to me.

If you have a concern, use discretion. Decide whether or not the problem could be solved by using the chain of command. If the chain of command doesn't seem like the best route, please let me know and I'll work the issue.



Jeffrey F. Smith

Col. Jeffery F. Smith
28th Bomb Wing commander



To reach the forum, you may e-mail 28bw.pa2@ellsworth.af.mil or write to:

28th Bomb Wing/Public Affairs
1958 Scott Dr., Suite 4
Ellsworth AFB, SD 57706

Those wishing to send an anonymous forum can do so at https://intranet1/cc_contact/ or <https://intranet1.ellsworth.af.mil/>.

BLACK HILLS BANDIT

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View from the top

By Col. Jeffry Smith, 28th Bomb Wing commander

Renewed wing DUI policy

Wing commander to adjudicate all alcohol-related driving offenses

This week's *View from the Top* takes a very serious tone. Ellsworth's alcohol-related driving incidents (DUI/DWI) have hit an all-time high — six DUI offenses in January alone — and this is a trend that must stop. Alcohol-related driving incidents will get wing-level, command attention.

Last week I sent a letter to all 28th Bomb Wing group and squadron commanders informing them I am withholding legal authority on all incidents involving the use of alcohol and a moving vehicle — automobile, snowmobile, ATV, boat, or bicycle. I've taken these measures for a number of reasons.

As the wing commander I have all authority necessary, through the Uniform Code of Military Justice, to personally take any case of misconduct I wish. I'm choosing to handle the alcohol-related ones. That means all incidents of this nature will be personally handled by me.

Why? Because we simply cannot ignore or "wish away" the fact that our DUI rate is high and climbing fast. As the wing commander and the summary and special court martial convening authority, I have additional options. And I will exercise my options.

Let me first put to rest some myths circulating through rumor channels and level the playing field of truth.

Myth: The wing commander is more limited than squadron or group commanders in the punishments doled out.

Fact: Not true. I have more options at my discretion and can impact a wider range of ranks than they can. I can and will send every case that warrants to the appropriate forum.

Myth: Ellsworth recently had an officer (major) arrested for a DUI, yet the wing commander chose not to take that case from Rapid City courts but did take the other five enlisted DUI cases.

Fact: Not true. Ellsworth doesn't "take" DUIs from the local civilian juris-

dictions. We have no say one way or another regarding any case involving a violator off-base as to whether Pennington or Meade county asks or allows the government (us) to adjudicate the case.

The relationship between Ellsworth and our local community police force and prosecutors is exceptional.

Due to the high number of cases they prosecute monthly, they often agree that we should "keep" jurisdiction over lesser offenses, including many DUI/DWIs, which helps to reduce their heavy workload. They are also very aware that the Air Force typically punishes harder than the state is able to on a first offense.

Myth: 28th BW leadership favors officers and is harder on enlisted discipline issues.

Fact: Not true. As a matter of fact, punishment for officers convicted of a UCMJ violation is usually more serious than the same infraction committed by an enlisted Airman.

The room for "error" on an officer misconduct case these days is zero. In fact, the very same UCMJ authority for withholding adjudication from our squadron commanders (in my case) was reserved to my boss, Lt. Gen. Randall Schmidt, 12th Air Force commander, over his wing commanders.

COMACC made this decision for us. General Schmidt personally handles *all* officer misconduct cases warranting an Article 15 or more. I cannot offer an Ellsworth officer an Article 15 — the 12th AF/CC handles these officer cases.

Believe me, there is no "favoritism" for officers.

I believe it's absolutely critical that every Ellsworth Airman understand the situation we're faced with and understand (although some may not agree) with my approach to solving the criminal problem of drinking and driving.

We are a nation at war and we need every Airman to ensure that our nation's freedom and ideals are secure. We sim-

ply cannot continue to spend 99 percent of our time on 1 percent of our Airmen — those who willfully violate the law.

The number of deaths in fatal alcohol-related car accidents in the United States is equivalent to a fully loaded 747 crashing. Three times a week. Every week.

More than 50 percent of all fatal highway crashes involving two or more cars, over 65 percent of all fatal car crashes, and more than 36 percent of all adult pedestrian accidents — are alcohol related.

And while I'm throwing statistics around, understand that abuse of alcohol affects far more than driving incidents. Eighty percent of all domestic disputes, 60 percent of all emergency room admissions, 54 percent of all violent crimes, and 40 percent of all suicide attempts are alcohol related.

I want to be very up front with the rules of the road and squash any misunderstandings of levels of punishment possible for those who break the law.

For enlisted members, the punishment I can impose through an Article 15 for a DUI conviction is tough: forfeiture of a half month's pay for two months, 60 days restriction to base, 45 days extra duty, 30 days correctional custody, a rep-

rimand, and a reduction of one grade.

If I elect to send the member to a Summary Court Martial, a jail sentence of 30 days may also be imposed.

For officer members, the 12th AF/CC can garnish a half month's pay for two months, 60 days restriction to base, 30 days arrest in quarters, and a reprimand. Of course, any of these actions for an officer would be a "career ender."

What is not technically a part of the punishment is a referral officer performance report as a result of disciplinary action. I've never seen an officer with a referral report get promoted. This is serious business.

What is most frustrating to me is that every one of these cases cited, and every DUI that has been prosecuted, could have been easily prevented. Every member must completely understand that personal accountability for your actions is the key to success. Have a plan, and execute that plan. Have a back-up plan and use it when necessary.

Tough times call for tough action, and I'm not one to shy away from taking tough action. Take care of yourselves and take care of one another — and don't get behind the wheel of a vehicle if you've been drinking.



Photo illustration by Senior Airman Mike Meares



Uniform board releases results

Changes made effective immediately

WASHINGTON — The 97th Air Force Uniform Board released their newest results for proper wear of the uniform.

The board met in October and discussed everything from eliminating the Air Force Good Conduct Medal to maternity uniforms.

In addition, a Headquarters Air Force badge will be available this summer. The badge provides a distinct identification of military staff members assigned to the Air Staff and the Air Force Secretariat. Details about this badge will be available at a future date.

The following changes are effective immediately:

- Approval to wear the blue nametag with the Air Force informal uniform — the member's abbreviated rank and name will be on one line. This uniform is worn by recruiters, honor guard, enlisted aides, chaplains, chaplain assistants, world-class athletes, and fitness center and health and wellness center staffs.

- Cummerbund pleats will face up in all cases.

- If due to a temporary medical condition, such as chemotherapy, results in baldness, commanders will authorize the approved American Cancer Society cap, wigs or baldness while in uniform.

- Bracelet size is reduced to one-half inch. Bracelets that support a cause, philosophy, individual or group are not authorized. Traditional POW/MIA bracelets are still permitted. Gemstone and tennis bracelets are only authorized while wearing the mess dress.

- Rings will be worn at the base of the finger and will not be worn on the thumb. Wedding sets count as one ring.

- Eyeglasses will not be worn around the neck, on top or back of the head or hanging on uniform.

- Epoxy blue nametag is optional on the blue shirt.

- Wear of the firefighter duty badge is authorized while an individual is assigned a 3E7X1 duty Air Force specialty code, including periods of professional military education and staff tours above group level.

- Wear of the security forces duty badge and beret is authorized while an individual is assigned a 3PXXX duty AFSC position and is also their primary



LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — (From left) Capt. Megan Schafer, Staff Sgt. Antwain Wright and Master Sgt. Scott Wagers wear different combinations of the physical training uniform while jogging during the wear-test phase. The 97th Air Force Uniform Board declared wear of the PT uniform mandatory as of Oct. 1 per the instructions released in November.

AFSC, including PME attendance and staff tours above group level.

- The Air Force Good Conduct Medal will no longer be awarded. Previously earned medals are still permitted.

- Mandatory wear of the physical training uniform is set for Oct. 1 as per the instructions released last November.

- Cell phones, pagers and personal digital assistants must be solid or covered in black, silver, dark blue or gray, and must be conservative. They may be clipped to the left side of the waistband or purse or carried in left hand. Only one may be worn on the uniform belt. Members will not walk in uniform while using phones, radios or hands-free headsets unless required in performing official duties using a government-issued device.

- Permanent wear of the scuba badge is authorized on the battle dress uniform.

- While not deployed, desert combat uniforms may not be worn unless en route to the basic combat convoy course. "Deployed" for this purpose includes members traveling en route to/from rest

and recuperative leave from the Central Command area of responsibility, as outlined in policy announced in mid-2005.

This session of the Air Force Uniform Board included a special panel that was specifically chartered to make recommendations regarding updates/revisions to uniform standards affecting women Airmen. After careful review, the board approved several changes that affect women specifically:

- "Scrunchies" are prohibited.
- Hairpins and bands must match hair color.

- Hair color, frosting and highlights will not be faddish and will match natural hair colors, i.e. blonde, brunette, natural red, black or gray.

- No shaved head or flat top hairstyles for women.

- Synthetic hair can be worn, as long as it meets safety and mission requirements.

- Braids, micro-braids and cornrows are authorized.

- Nail polish will not contrast with

complexion or detract from the uniform. Nor is polish of extreme color, such as purple, gold, black, blue or any florescent color, authorized. Nail polish will also be limited to one color.

- French manicures are allowed, but fingernail length in all instances will not exceed one-quarter inch beyond the fingertip.

- In addition to clutch-style purses, purses with no more than two straps are authorized with mess dress.

- Earrings will be small spherical, conservative diamond, gold, white pearl or silver with any uniform combination and must be worn as a set. For those with multiple ear piercing, only one set of earrings will be worn in the lower earlobe and will also conform to these earring wear standards when performing duty in civilian clothes.

- Male flight cap is optional.

The updates will be added to Air Force Instruction 36-2903 when the new version is released in March.



Ellsworth's spotlight on...



Mrs. Cindy Fedorkowicz

28th Services Squadron human resource assistant

What does your job entail?

I work in the human resource office with employee benefits, workers compensation claims and other related areas of employment.

What do you like about your job?

I love working with our employees and meeting people who are new to the area and looking for employment.

Where are you from?

Minot, N.D.

What do you like about the Air Force?

I enjoy meeting people from all over the United States and the family environment the Air Force offers.

What do you do in your spare time?

I spend time with my husband and my sister, and I go to college at National American University.

What's the most important advice you'd give new Airmen?

Keep a positive and open mind.

What was your favorite toy when you were a kid and why?

Barbie, because she had lots of clothes and a pink Corvette.

What's your earliest memory?

Fishing on a boat with my family when I was 3.



Airman 1st Class Justin Hughes

28th Comptroller Squadron cashier and leave web system administrator

What does your job entail?

Paying advances, collection on debts, processing leave transactions and ensuring 100 percent accountability.

What do you like about your job?

I like finance because I learn something new every day, and I get to help customers with one of their most important assets.

Where are you from?

Anaconda, Mo.

What do you like about the Air Force?

I like all the many educational, medical and other benefits of being an Air Force member.

What do you do in your spare time?

I spend most of my spare time with my family or with my little brother from Big Brothers Big Sisters. I also enjoy spending time playing and watching sports.

What's the most important advice you'd give new Airmen?

Keep your head high and always do the best you can, and positive things will follow. It may take a while, but you will be recognized for your hard work.

What are you proud of?

I was nominated for "Volunteer of the Year."



These Team Ellsworth members have been recognized by their commanders, first sergeants and supervisors for consistently demonstrating a high degree of professionalism and dedication to accomplishing our wing's mission. For more information, call the public affairs office at 385-5056.

Tip of the Week

Redirecting Highly Charged Conversations

Being caught off guard in a super-heated conversation is harrowing. Following are ways to transform tense encounters into a more productive interaction.

1. Stay aware and centered — When someone seems to be bowling you over with a caustic reaction (or even a verbal or energetic attack), stay fully present and centered, so you can make good choices regarding how to respond.

2. Respond, don't react — Always a good interpersonal rule, choosing to respond rather than react is to remember that we can be conscious, civil, gracious and calm in our communications even when someone else chooses quite differently.

3. Inquire and validate — Another potential interpersonal tactic in the face of someone's heated reaction is to inquire and validate the intentions, beliefs and concerns "behind" the heated words.

4. State your intention — Once the pattern of verbal escalation breaks (by inquiry and validation, for example), you can begin to reorient the conversation to either a relatively pleasant close (even if temporarily), or shift the focus to the more important priorities of the conversation.

5. Redirect or reschedule — If you're unable to redirect the conversation back to a more productive course, it may be best to state your intention for a positive, productive conversation and suggest that "this conversation seems to be getting too heated, so maybe we should revisit the issue later."

6. State your appreciation for the interaction — Regardless which outcome occurs for any particular conversation, it's good form — and skillful communication — to express your gratitude and appreciation for the person's time, honesty and willingness to redirect.

Information provided by Mr. Donald Bell,
28th Bomb Wing equal employment opportunity manager

Base Chapel Schedule

Daily Catholic Mass

Monday through Thursday at noon at the Black Hills Chapel

Sunday Catholic Mass

9:30 a.m. at the Black Hills Chapel

Catholic Religious Education

Sunday, 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Chapel Activity Center

Sunday Protestant Services

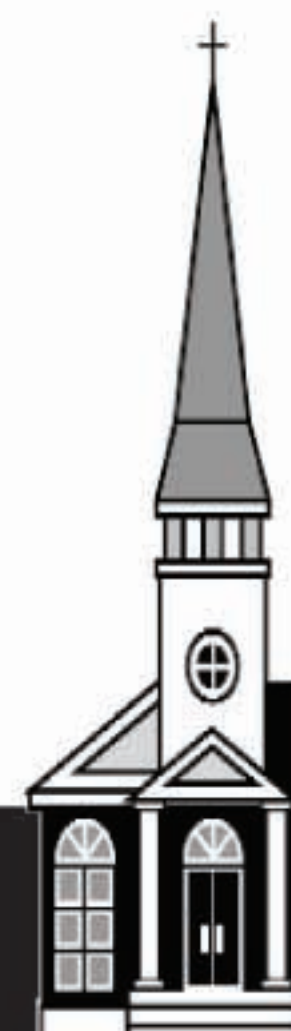
- Community Service, 11 a.m. at the Freedom Chapel
- Inspirational Gospel Service, 11:15 a.m. at the Black Hills Chapel
- Rock Contemporary Service, 6 p.m. at the CAC

The Freedom Chapel is located at 1554 Ellsworth Street, west of the Commissary.

The Black Hills Chapel is located at 1192 Foulis Drive, east of the Rushmore Center.

The Chapel Activities Center is located at 1158 Ellsworth Street, north of the Rushmore Center.

For more information, call the base chapel office at 385-1598.



**BTES Closure**

The base training and education center will be closed from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. today and all day Feb. 17. Schools will have regular hours during these times.

Flying Aces Appearance

The new Rapid City Flying Aces franchise of the National Indoor Football League will make appearances at the base exchange today from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4 to 6 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Guests will include Flying Aces' quarterback Albert Higgs, the 2005 NIFL most valuable player; Flying Aces' free safety, Brandon Everage; and the Flying Aces' dance team, the Bombshells. Season tickets for the Flying Aces' can be purchased at this event with a military discount.

TREA Breakfast

The Retired Enlisted Association Auxiliary will host an "all-you-can-eat" pancake breakfast Feb. 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at 1981 E. Centre Street in Rapid City. Cost is \$3. The menu includes pancakes, sausages, biscuits and gravy, eggs, orange juice and coffee.

Fit to Go Closure

The Fit to Go operation at the Bellamy Fitness Center is permanently closed.

Masters Degree Program

The Air Force Institute of Technology has an "enlisted-to-AFIT" program, in which Air Force members may earn master's degrees in electrical/computer engineering, logistics management or criminal justice. Minimum requirements include a relevant bachelor's degree; the rank of E-6 to E-8 with eight years time in service, completion of seven-level upgrade training and resident Noncommissioned Officer Academy; and three years retainability from date of AFIT graduation. Nomination packages are forwarded by Feb. 27, and selected students report in August. More details are available at the base training and education center.

Commissary Closure

The base commissary will be open Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and will close Feb. 14. The commissary will re-open Feb. 15 at 9 a.m. Base commissary management apologizes for any inconvenience.

MDG Closure

The 28th Medical Group will close Feb. 17 and Feb. 20 in observance of the Air Combat Command Family Day and President's Day.

TRICARE Online

The 28th Medical Group announced that the TRICARE Online appointment scheduling option will be available Feb. 21. Enrolled beneficiaries will now have the ability to schedule routine and follow-up appointments via www.tricareonline.com. To access this new option, patients must register at the TRICARE Online Web site. A demonstration of TRICARE Online and registration assistance

will be available in the clinic's multi-purpose conference room from 10 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. Feb. 21 through 23. For more information, call Master Sgt. Tracey House at 385-3339.

National Prayer Luncheon

The National Prayer Luncheon is scheduled for Feb. 23 at 11:30 a.m. in Dakota's dining room. Cost for the luncheon is \$1. The menu includes marinated Asian chicken, white rice, California vegetable medley, mixed green salad with raspberry vinaigrette, dinner rolls and assorted pies for dessert. The guest speaker will be Chaplain (Col.) David Cyr, Air Combat Command chaplain. For tickets, call 385-2777 or visit Room 213 in the education center by Feb. 16.

Video Contest

The wing Dining Out committee announces a video presentation contest for this year's Dining Out. The video will be played during the event and will represent Ellsworth's Dining Out theme, "Traditions never forgotten; taking us into the future." The video length is limited to two songs or approximately seven minutes. To create and present a video to the committee, call Tech. Sgt. Jason Kreutzer at 385-6115 with your information and video by March 3. The creator of the winning video will receive two free tickets to the May 5 wing Dining Out.

W-2s Available

W-2 tax statements are now available at <https://mypay.dfas.mil/mypay.aspx>. Those who filed a DITY in 2005 will receive a separate W-2 in the mail.

CAC Logon

Upon logging on to Ellsworth computers, a short logon script prompts individuals to insert their Common Access Card into the Smart Card reader attached to their computer and enter their personal identification number. Required information is then read from the CAC. Once this short logon session is completed with the CAC the first time, users won't be prompted to complete it again. While this CAC logon is not yet mandatory, it's planned to be in the future. As such, the 28th Communications Squadron encourages members to complete this logon so it may identify and correct potential problems with the system before it becomes mandatory. Members who've forgotten their PIN can get it reset at the Military Personnel Flight at the Rushmore Center or the Communications Control Center in Building 4304. For more information, visit <https://networks.acc.af.mil/scn/projects/main.html> and click on the PKI link.

AFAS Tuition Grant

The Air Force Aid Society has increased the individual award amount under its General Henry H. Arnold Education Grant Program to \$2,000. The program continues to be offered to dependent sons and daughters of active duty, Title 10 active guard and reserve/reservists on extended duty, Title 32 AGR performing full-time active duty, retired, retired

reservists with at least 20 qualifying years of service, and deceased Air Force members. Spouses (residing stateside) of active duty, Title 10 AGR/reservists on extended active duty and surviving spouses of deceased members are also eligible candidates. For more information and application, call the family support center at 385-4663, or visit the AFAS Web site at www.afas.org.

Vehicle Decals

Due to an Air Force-wide shortage of Air Force Form 2219 year decals, the requirement for these decals was temporarily waived by Air Combat Command until further notice. Vehicles will continue to

be registered with the Department of Defense Form 2220 and "Ellsworth AFB" decal.

Force Shaping

As more information becomes available concerning Force Shaping, it will be distributed through the military personnel flight to units. For more information, call Capt. Jonathan Morgan at 385-2345.

AF Song

During the noon playing of the Air Force song, Airmen are reminded to come to attention with no salute while outside. When driving, base members are not required to pull over.

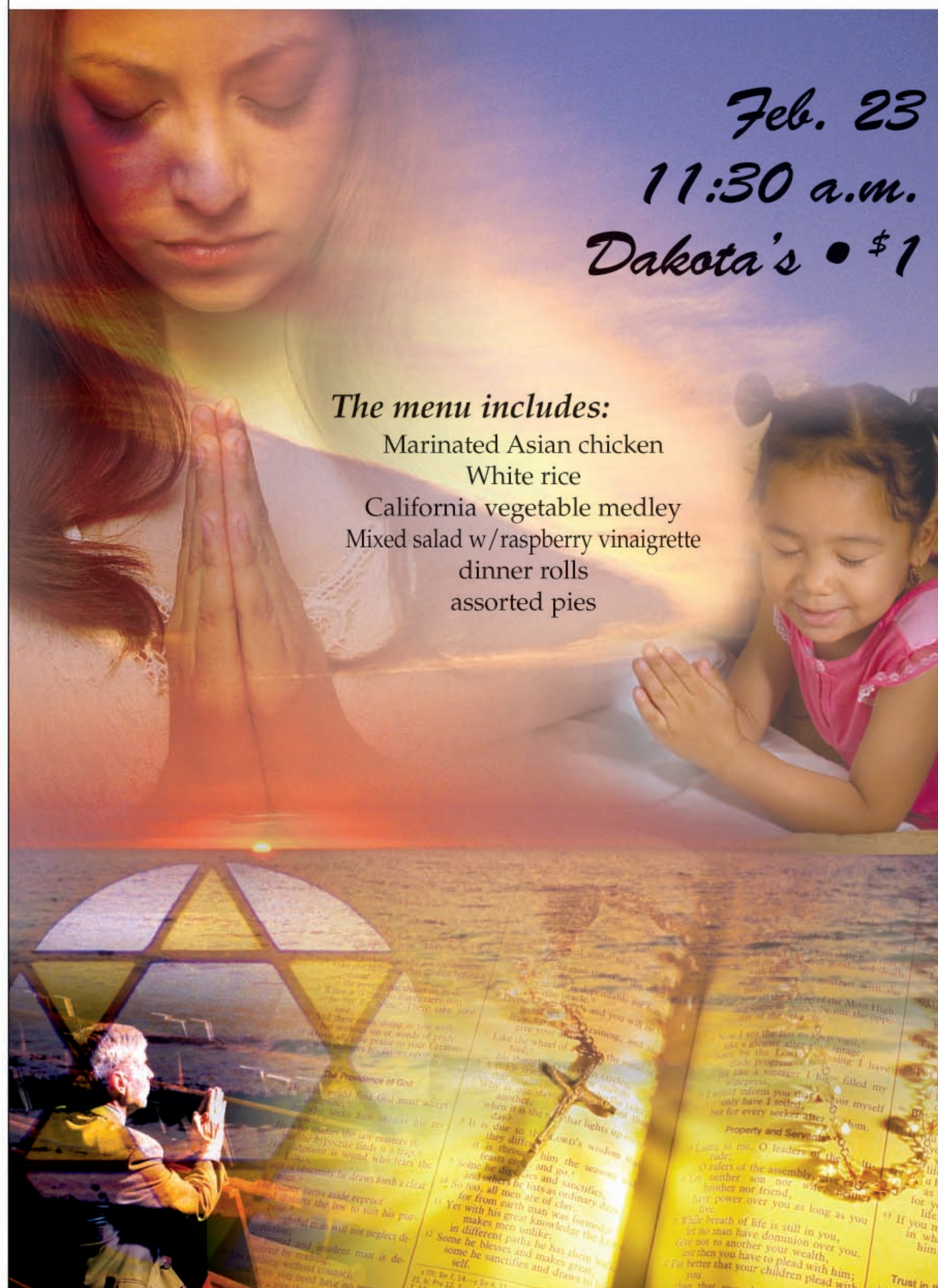
National Prayer Luncheon

With guest speaker Chaplain (Col.) David Cyr
Air Combat Command chaplain

Feb. 23
11:30 a.m.
Dakota's • \$1

The menu includes:

Marinated Asian chicken
White rice
California vegetable medley
Mixed salad w/ raspberry vinaigrette
dinner rolls
assorted pies



For tickets, call 385-2777 or visit Room 213 in the education center by Feb. 16.



THE SILVER SCREEN

Fun with Dick and Jane (PG-13)

Today & Thursday, 7 p.m.

Jim Carrey & Tea Leoni

Social satire that deals with corporate scandals such as Enron in hilarious fashion. In this tale, a wealthy couple loses their main source of income and slowly reach rock bottom. When the couple is forced to turn to a life of crime, they begin to organize a revenge heist of epic — and hilarious — proportions.

Munich (R)

Saturday, 7 p.m.

Eric Bana & Daniel Craig

Set in the aftermath of the massacre of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Munich Olympics, this story follows a secret Israeli squad assigned to track down and kill the 11 Palestinians suspected to have planned the Munich attack — and the personal toll this mission of revenge takes on the team and the man who led it.

The Ringer (PG-13)

Sunday 7 p.m.

Johnny Knoxville & Brian Cox

When Steve Barker finds himself running dead last in the corporate rat race, he sinks to an all-time low. With the prodding of his conniving uncle, he attempts to rig the Special Olympics by pretending to be intellectually challenged.

Grandma's Boy (R)

Feb. 17 & 19 • 7 p.m.

Allen Covert & Peter Dante

By day, 35-year-old Alex tests video games. By night, he is privately developing a game of his own. When one of his roommates spends all the rent money on a prostitute, Alex has to move in with his grandmother.

Casanova (R)

Feb. 18 • 7 p.m.

Heath Ledger & Sienna Miller

When Casanova meets his intellectual match, he must prove himself to be the one man worthy of her romantic ideals.

The Ringer hits a nice chord

By Crystal Hohenthanner

BLACK HILLS BANDIT STAFF

Johnny Knoxville has a history and reputation of being crass, vulgar, inappropriate and funny. At least he's funny if you can get past those other traits.

I have to be up front here, Knoxville usually frustrates me because I think he's a brilliant comedic mind who stoops far too low for a laugh — and I don't enjoy his usual nasty tricks.

I was pleasantly surprised, however, by his performance in *The Ringer*, because — somehow — his portrayal of a man attempting to fix the Special Olympics wasn't too offensive. It was

actually endearing.

Sounds impossible, right? Like the ultimate oxymoron. The good element is probably due to the fact that Knoxville's character, Steve, was roped into the Special-Olympics-fixing scheme due to a situation beyond his control.

Granted, said situation is so far-fetched that I found the first few minutes of the film uncomfortable. However, the discomfort and the odd plot twist were worth it because they kept Knoxville likable because he was playing the good guy.

Although Knoxville dominates the screen-time as the not so disabled "highly-functioning, developmentally disabled" Jeffy, *The Ringer* is really much more of an ensemble comedy.

And the ensemble who portray truly disabled men are truly funny. My personal favorite is Glen who, "works at Burger King."

The compassionate and adorable performances of these men save this over-the-top premise from politically correct demise by challenging and teasing the so-called normal guy at every turn.

As all my regular readers have probably learned by now, I'm turning into a sappy old lady at the tender age of 26. Pathetic, right? Well, I pathetically chuckled through tears throughout many of the scenes in the flick.

In the end, the entire film, which is potentially highly offensive, manages to be ultimately heartwarming and hilarious.

Dick and Jane: fun little caper

By Crystal Hohenthanner

BLACK HILLS BANDIT STAFF

Many people learned to read with the classic Dick and Jane books.

Personally, I've never seen these texts. I did, however, learn a

valuable lesson from the film *Fun with Dick and Jane* — I should be a casting agent.

And I would have cast *Dick and Jane* much differently.

Now, don't get me wrong, Jim Carrey and Tea Leoni are great, and they act the parts of Dick and Jane well.

But to cast two incredibly outrageous physical comedians as normal, even-keeled suburbanites was a bit disappointing for me.

I was ready for over-the-top laughs and gut-busting pratfalls. What I got was some pretty major political and social satire.

It seems that the purpose of *Dick and Jane* was to highlight

recent scandals in the business world and put a face on the despair companies, such as Enron, caused with their fall.

Of course, this film puts a comedic twist on the sad fate of the families who suffered.

And don't get me wrong, it's funny. I just had my expectations up too high. The average Carrey or Leoni fan will enjoy the performances.

Plus, Alec Baldwin makes a slimy appearance as the greedy bad-guy who bankrupts his company, but somehow got away with his personal millions intact.

Although I didn't find *Dick and Jane* to be a major laugh-riot, I was very impressed with how well the movie makers dealt with the potentially depressing subject matter.

I mean, Dick loses his job within the first few minutes of the movie, and the large portion of the flick is about how destitute the couple is.

And somehow it's funny — impressive, right?

So, even though it wasn't exactly what I expected, in the end, the good guys win and the bad guy gets what he deserves, and that's my kind of movie.



Ellsworth names 2005 Annual Award winners

And the winners are...

By Senior Airman Jason Piatek
BLACK HILLS BANDIT STAFF

You might say team Ellsworth competed at a Super Bowl-caliber level during 2005. Thursday was time to hand out the MVP awards.

Hundreds came out to honor 46 of Ellsworth's finest at the wing's Annual Awards Banquet at the Ramkota Convention Center in Rapid City Thursday. The awards were divided into 14 categories, including: Airman, Non-Commissioned Officer, Senior NCO, First Sergeant, Honor Guardsman, Volunteer, Civilian and Non Appropriated Fund Civilian of the year.

Nominees are judged based on the "whole person concept," ensuring they not only exhibit outstanding duty performance, but are also leaders in the community and are involved in self-improvement efforts.

"It's no easy task to get selected as a wing nominee," said Senior Master Sgt. Paula Lopez, AAB committee chair. "They've worked hard all year, and they deserve this recognition as being the best of the best."

In order to even be a candidate for the annual awards, individuals must first be selected by their squadron to compete to represent their respective group. Only one person from each of the four groups is selected to be the wing nominees for the year.

"It is an extremely competitive process all the way through," Sergeant Lopez said.

The level of competition didn't used to be nearly as high, but has risen along with the military's reputation in recent years.

"Back in the day, if you go back 10 to 15 years before this Air Force was so incredibly competitive, you'd have maybe one candidate who was doing some volunteerism, was really good at their job and maybe they took a CLEP test or one class," said Command

Chief Master Sgt. Clyde Aune, 28th Bomb Wing. "Today, these people are going for bachelor's and master's degrees, and they're extremely active as volunteers in the local community and of course, they're the absolutely best at their job."

Chief Aune believes the change in the military over the years was due to the way America has changed it's view of its military.

"When I joined, the military was not a highly viewed profession because of Vietnam. For reasons that still escape me, a portion of our country blamed the military men and women for the failures in Vietnam," Chief Aune said.

"There's a lot of people in our country who don't agree with the war in Iraq, but they're not blaming the troops. Today, this profession is held in the highest regard by our own countrymen and women. So, there's a great deal of pride in being able to serve in this profession, and in turn we are attracting a higher caliber of people."

That high caliber has made recent award boards put in some long hours to determine who will be selected.

"It's tougher and tougher to do every quarter," Chief Aune said. "But that's a good thing. I mean, when you're meeting with so many who are that high of a caliber of people, it really makes you feel good at the end of the day."

The term "winner" becomes almost redundant when speaking of the award nominees, which is why Chief Aune is hesitant to use the word.

"Certainly there are no losers in the crowd. We use 'winner' as a term that we tie to sports that tends to mean everyone else is a loser. But what these nominees have done is so incredible," Chief Aune said. "So, I tell them at the board that regardless of the outcome, I hope they hold their heads really high for all that they've done."

Honor Guard CGO of the Year



1st Lt. Myer Gribbins
28th CPTS

Lieutenant Gribbins led the performance of 21 military funeral honors, assuming duties as the Officer In Charge. The lieutenant assumed duties above requirements and performed duties as the OIC of the

firing party, guaranteeing no lack of continuity in the performance of honors due to short notice funeral request across South Dakota. Lieutenant Gribbins performed 86 details in 2005 with a personal investment of more than 674 hours.

Honor Guardsman of the Year



Staff Sgt. Michael Johnson
28th AMXS

Sergeant Johnson proved himself to be a versatile leader when he was hand selected by Honor Guard leadership as the NCO in charge of the exhibition Silent Drill Team. He trained and equipped the team in 30 days, which

was 60 days ahead of schedule. In all, Sergeant Johnson devoted 1,535 hours to the Honor Guard program both performing details and training.

Honor Guard Airman of the Year



Senior Airman Adam Netherton
28th MXS

Airman Netherton proved his dependability performing 12 short-notice military funeral honors. He was selected as lead trainer of the base Colors Team Flight, where he was responsible for all issues within

the flight, supervising 30 percent of the entire base Honor Guard Program. He performed 75 details, investing more than 460 volunteer hours.

CGO of the Year



1st Lt. Met Berisha
28th SFS

Lieutenant Berisha excelled as a security forces operations officer while deployed to Karshi-Khanabad Air Base, Uzbekistan, for Operation Enduring Freedom, leading 54 troops in 255 security missions, 867

sorties and 1,671 combat flying hours. All were completed without incident. Lieutenant Berisha also showcased Ellsworth to 60 veterans from the Hot Springs Veteran's Administration Hospital, orchestrating a tour of the base that included six demonstrations and five base agencies.

Outstanding Airman of the Year



Airman 1st Class
Kenneth Bohannon, Jr.
28th CES

Airman Bohannon gave superior drafting and surveying support to nine engineers on 30 projects valued at more than \$98 million. He was awarded an achievement medal for his exemplary work supporting operations Iraqi and

Enduring Freedom while deployed to Southwest Asia, where he surveyed 407 structures and 12.8 million square feet of property. Airman Bohannon garnered an elite Drill Team position, displaying exceptional weapons skills and military bearing. He supports the Meals on Wheels program, delivering lunch twice a month to nine elderly and disabled Rapid City citizens.

First Sergeant of the Year



Senior Master Sgt.
Timothy Bolon
28th CES

Sergeant Bolon is the leader of the largest squadron in the 28th Mission Support Group. He deployed to Bagram Air Base, Iraq, to support Operation Enduring Freedom and was awarded a commendation medal. While

deployed, he calmed personnel during multiple rocket attacks, prompting unit success for post attack operations. He also executed three Adopt-a-Village humanitarian missions, coordinating all tasks, and managed more than 300 volunteers. One such mission provided relief for 10,000 Afghans. Sergeant Bolon also volunteered as a coach and referee for youth soccer and basketball, donating 85 hours.

Civilian of the Year - Category I



GS-5 Ms. Luann Henry
28th CES

Ms. Henry played a direct role in the 28th Civil Engineer Squadron winning Best CES in the command, managing a myriad of tasks. She processed 304 enlisted performance reports, 120 decorations for permanent

changes of station, separations and retirements with a 97 percent on-time rate despite having 55 percent of the military members deployed. She also provided computer support for 14 shops, easing the information system shop's workload and improving mission capability. She also helped raise \$345 while participating in a 10K walk for the American Heart Association.

Outstanding Volunteer of the Year



Master Sgt.
Christopher Averill
28th SFS

Sergeant Averill donated 173 hours to the Meade County, S.D., Sheriff's Office where he expertly secured murder scene evidence. The suspect in the case was arrested six hours later. Sergeant Averill acts as a one-man patrol unit. He's

responsible for public safety of the second largest geographical area in the U.S. He attended more than 60 hours of additional law enforcement training hours on his own time. He also guided the 28th Mission Support Squadron Family Support Center Child Lures Program, which resulted in 230 parents and children briefed on the dangers predators pose.

Outstanding Civilian - Category II



GS-7 Mr. James Johnson
28th MOS

Mr. Johnson managed requirements for 116 installed power plants and spare engines valued at more than \$1.3 billion. He also established deployment criteria and changed three engines locally, saving manpower and \$3,000

in shipping. He is aggressively pursuing two bachelor's degrees in Business Management and Human Resources. Mr. Johnson is also an active Douglas High School Booster Club member, where he led two fund raisers earning \$2,000 for tournaments and other events.

SNCO of the Year



Master Sgt. Kelly Mixon
28th SFS

Sergeant Mixson won a bronze star with valor while deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq, where he brilliantly managed four sections and \$8 million in security forces resources, securing 25,000 Army and Air Force personnel.

He fearlessly led more than 60 off-base combat patrols into hostile territory where he suppressed enemy indirect fire attacks. His decisive leadership proved invaluable during Operation Cobra Strike, a cordon/sweep operation which built an insurgent holding area and captured 10 insurgents. During convoy redeployment, he rushed amid burning ammo and insurgent fire to render aid to soldiers wounded by an improvised explosive device.

NAF Category I Winner



Ms. Jennifer Herron
28th SVS

Ms. Herron exceptionally administered one of the largest filing systems on base. She reviewed and recommended changes to budgets prior to wing approval. As a member of the 28th Aircraft Maintenance

Squadron spouses group, she assisted spouses of deployed members during difficult times. Ms. Herron consistently strives for self-improvement and has accumulated 104 credit hours toward a bachelor's degree in political science.

NCO of the Year



Tech. Sgt. Susan Ebeck
34th BS

Sergeant Ebeck single-handedly elevated the combat potential of the wing as a member of the operational readiness exercise evaluation team, where she helped design and implement the entire

28th Bomb Wing scenario. She also directed a team of 10 to execute the 20 month Air Combat Command threat training program, overseeing 47 B-1 specific air-to-air and surface-to-air threat system briefs, resulting in 115 combat aviators able to mitigate threats and accomplish the mission. The sergeant also spearheaded a fundraiser for Toys for Tots, raising \$300 for Christmas gifts for the less fortunate.

NAF Category II Winner



Mr. David Roney
28th SVS

As the 28th Services Squadron vehicle control officer, Mr. Roney headed a unit that rated "excellent" on an annual 28th Logistics Readiness Squadron inspection of squadron vehicles. His in-house repairs have saved

non-appropriated funds by not contracting the work out. Mr. Roney also volunteers his time to help the less fortunate with moving, home repairs and donations of clothing, furniture and food.



Snow Angel



Photo by Airman Kimberly Limrick

Shortly after this year's first snow, Mackenzie Johnson, 5, smiles while admiring her near-perfect snow angel she made at the Child Development Center.

Makenzie is the daughter of Mrs. Karen and Staff Sgt. Edwin Johnson, 28th Maintenance Operations Squadron.

Bandit Inn Menu

Today, February 10

Lunch

- Mexican-Baked Chicken
- Stuffed Green Peppers
- Swiss Steak & Tomato Sauce

Dinner

- Sukiyaki
- Mustard-Dill Baked Fish
- Hot Italian Sausage

Saturday, February 11

Lunch

- Cajun Meatloaf
- Crispy Baked Chicken
- Ribeye Steak

Dinner

- Fish Almandine
- Pork Chops & Mushroom Gravy
- Chicken Broccoli Stir Fry

Sunday, February 12

Lunch

- Chicken Parmesan
- Sauerbraten
- Tuna & Noodles

Dinner

- Fried Shrimp
- Ginger BBQ Chicken
- Spinach Lasagna

Monday, February 13

Lunch

- Baked Chicken
- Swiss Steak & Tomato Sauce
- Hot Italian Sausage

Dinner

- Roast Turkey
- Baked Ham
- Fish & Fries

Tuesday, February 14

Lunch

- Yakisoba
- Lemon Baked Fish
- Pork Schnitzel

Dinner

- BBQ Beef Cubes
- Paprika Beef
- Chicken Fajitas

Wednesday, February 15

Lunch: Italian Ethnic Meal

- Lasagna
- Spaghetti
- Veal Parmesan

Dinner

- Country-Style Steak
- Fried Chicken
- Pita Pizza

Thursday, February 16

Lunch

- Tempura Fried Fish
- Liver & Onions
- Orange Spice Pork Chops

Dinner

- Pepper Steak
- Mr. Z's Baked Chicken
- Pasta Primavera

Upcoming Services Events

Spring Soccer

Sign-ups end Feb 17
Youth center • 385-2277
Cost varies by age

Snowy Range Trip

Price includes hotel, breakfast and transportation.
Outdoor recreation • 385-2997
• Feb. 17-19 • \$120

Morning Storytime

Holbrook Library • 385-1688
Feb. 19 • 10 a.m. • Free

Iceberg Swim

Indoor pool • 385-2267
Feb. 20 • 1 to 7 p.m.

Texas Hold 'Em

Dakota's Club • 385-1765
Feb. 20 • 5 p.m.

Evening Playland

Community center • 385-1609
Feb. 21 • 4 to 8 p.m. • \$1.50

Indoor Playland

Community center • 385-1609
Feb. 22 • 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. • \$1.50

Morning Storytime

Holbrook Library • 385-1688
Feb. 23 • 10 a.m. • Free

5K Fun Run

Bellamy Fitness Center
385-2266
Feb. 23 • 11 a.m.

First Gold Trip

Price includes transportation, prime rib and crab leg dinner and gaming coupons
Outdoor recreation
385-2997 • Feb. 24 • \$15

Saturday February 11

Dog Show

Community center • 385-1609 • 1 p.m. • Free to enter

Ski Terry Peak

Equipment rental available • Outdoor recreation
385-2997 • \$8 for transportation • 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Girls Sports Day

Youth center • 385-2277 • 5 to 8 p.m. • \$5

Dance Classes

Learn a variety of dances • Youth center • 385-2277 • 1 to 4 p.m.

Sweetheart Doubles

Bowl with your sweetheart and win prizes!
Bandit Lanes • 385-2536 • 6 p.m. • \$15 per person

Tuesday February 14

Candlelight Dinner

Menu includes: shrimp cocktail, lobster tail, gorgonzola tenderloin, cheesecake and champagne.
Dakota's Club • 385-1765 • Tuesday • 5 to 9 p.m. • \$30

Valentine's Balloons

Stop by or call 385-1609 to order a balloon bouquet.
Community center • Anytime • \$2 delivery



Loud and proud *HUAH!*

Lt. Col. Deborah J. Liddick
28TH MUNITIONS SQUADRON COMMANDER

Like most Americans, many of you have likely watched *American Idol*. If you have seen *American Idol*, you know that contestants who sing on the show are "proud and loud."



We share a lot in common with the contestants. Just like the contestants on the show, we in the United States Air Force are proud individuals. We take pride in what we do and how we do it.

We show our pride every day when we put on our uniform and do our jobs — for example, when we fix aircraft or equipment, build bombs, load bombs onto aircraft, edit enlisted performance reports and serve meals at the dining facility.

There's no doubt we in the Air Force take pride in everything we do. We're proud of what we've accomplished, we're proud of where we're going and we're proud to serve our country.

There are endless examples of when we show our pride. Think back to when you raised your right hand and swore to defend our country. I'm sure you had a feeling of pride.

Right now, there are many Airmen from Ellsworth who are serving proudly as part of America's fight in the war on terrorism around the world. Currently, there are 15,000 Airmen deployed in support of operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Just last week, many Ellsworth Airmen returned from Iraq. Three of those Airmen were from my squadron, and all three were proud of what they accomplished during their 120-plus day deployment and of the vital role they played in the war on terror and returning freedom and dignity to the citizens of Iraq.

Did you recently get selected for promotion? Did you receive an award or medal? How did you feel ... proud?

You should be proud of yourselves and your accomplishments. Promotions, awards and decorations are all symbols that reflect the fact you served proudly and boldly in the past and indicate you're likely to do the same

in the future.

I have the satisfaction of performing promotion ceremonies and awards ceremonies regularly. I'm proud to do it, and few things give me more satisfaction than rewarding those who serve.

When I get to perform these ceremonies, I do notice that each individual I recognize stands a little taller and looks a little sharper. Why? Because they are equally as proud of their accomplishments as I am of recognizing them for it.

I'm a proud commander. Every day, the folks in my squadron make me very proud. I'm proud of their accomplishments, proud they work hard, proud they have positive attitudes and proud they take care of each other.

We're a proud family.

Every day, the DUI board in the munitions storage area entry control point is updated with another number showing how many days we've gone without a DUI. As I write this article, we've gone 173 days without a DUI.

Last year, we went 198 days without a DUI, and I have no doubt we can go 365 days.

We can only succeed if everyone becomes good wingmen and have a complete plan when they go out. We're all proud to have gone this long without a DUI, proud we have a plan, proud we know to think about and understand the consequences of drinking and driving.

Are you proud and loud? In the 28th Munitions Squadron, pride is not just what we talk about, but what we do every day. We may never be as rich and famous as an "American Idol," but we're every bit as proud.

So, the next time you're at a wing function, Airman Leadership School graduation, or in the munitions storage area and hear someone yell "AMMO" followed by a response of "HUAH," then stand up and take notice, because we're proud and loud in the 28th MUNS, and pride is contagious!





Beat the Pros Playoffs



#1 seed Chief Master Sgt. Clyde Aune

#16 seed Mr. Steve Hilton

#8 seed Senior Airman Steven Lucero

#9 seed Mr. Dirk Grebinger

#4 seed Master Sgt. Peter Haugh

#13 seed Tech. Sgt. Jason Murray

#5 seed Mr. Brad Sudbeck

#12 seed Staff Sgt. Adam Flores

#6 seed Mrs. Kelley Fitch

#11 seed Master Sgt. Jeffery Weymouth

#3 seed Mr. Robert O'Brien

#14 seed Ms. Luann Henry

#7 seed Tech. Sgt. Jamie Heaton

#10 seed Tech. Sgt. Glen Rausch

#2 seed Mr. Rick McGrath

#15 seed Master Sgt. Adam McNair

#1 seed Chief Master Sgt. Clyde Aune

#9 seed Mr. Dirk Grebinger

#4 seed Master Sgt. Peter Haugh

#12 seed Staff Sgt. Adam Flores

#11 seed Master Sgt. Jeffery Weymouth

#3 seed Mr. Robert O'Brien

#10 seed Tech. Sgt. Glen Rausch

#15 seed Master Sgt. Adam McNair

BTP Champion Staff Sgt. Adam Flores

#9 seed Mr. Dirk Grebinger

#12 seed Staff Sgt. Adam Flores

#12 seed Staff Sgt. Adam Flores

#3 seed Mr. Robert O'Brien

#3 seed Mr. Robert O'Brien

#10 seed Tech. Sgt. Glen Rausch

The Black Hills Bandit staff would like to congratulate Staff Sgt. Adam Flores, the 2005-2006 Beat the Pros champion. The staff also sends thanks to everyone who participated in our Beat the Pros competition this season. Due to the enormous success of this promotion, the staff looks forward to making Beat the Pros even better for 2006-2007. Anyone who would like to make a recommendation to improve Beat the Pros for future years is encouraged to e-mail the Bandit staff at blackhills.bandit@ellsworth.af.mil.





Crossword Puzzle

Across

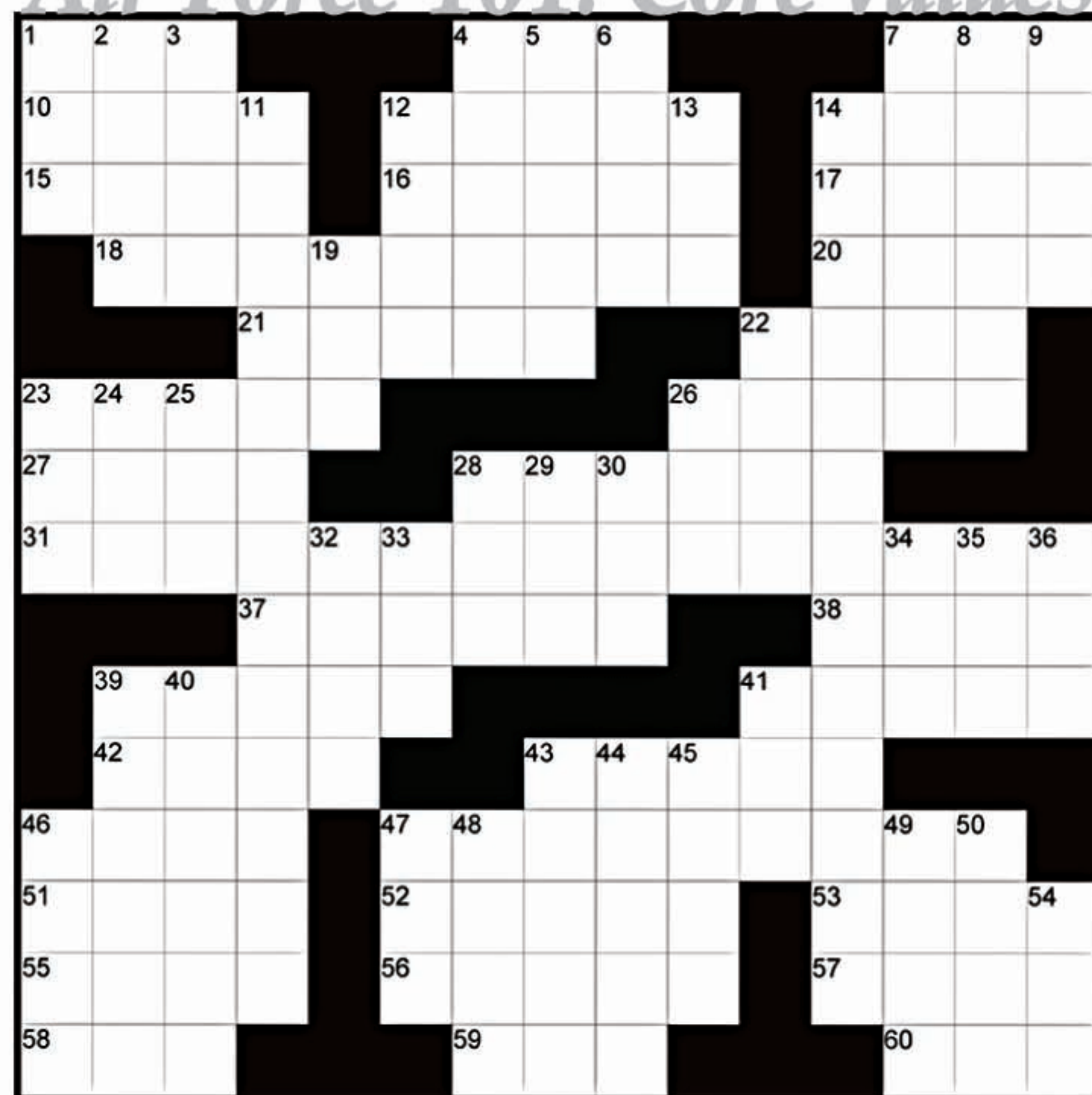
1. Church bench
4. Obese
7. JDs, possibly
10. Mocks
12. One time Supreme Court nominee Harriet
14. Shingle
15. Badger
16. Pushes
17. Wickedness
18. Wearing away
20. Readily
21. Sounds off
22. St. home to Arnold AFB

23. Reversed
26. Adores
27. Compact ____
28. Capital of state home to Malmstrom AFB
31. Start of fundamental value binding all Airmen
37. Hit
38. Joy
39. Perpendicular
41. Uplands
42. Fishhook
43. Overindulge
46. ____ - _-war
47. Start of fundamental value binding all Airmen
51. Celebrity
52. More terrible consequences
53. Slant
55. Actress Russo
56. Ratio
57. Dorothy's pet
58. "Greater good" ad
59. Modem speed, in short
60. Trespass

Down

1. Golf score
2. Historic
3. End of 31 ACROSS
4. End of 47 ACROSS
5. Navy cruiser
6. Palm product
7. Holy
8. 1986 Sci-Fi movie
9. End of 11 DOWN
11. Start of fundamental value binding all Airmen
12. Elementary particle
13. Mil. identifier
14. Pat Robertson or Jimmy Swaggart
19. Primary color
22. Singer Braxton
23. Ulan-____; Southern Russia city
24. ____ the plan; veto
25. USAF medal above Airman's Medal
26. Confederate general
28. Chick
29. 67°30 east of due north, in short
30. Display panel

Air Force 101: Core Values



Solution for Feb. 3



32. Page
33. On the ____; escaping
34. USAF PME
35. Grassland
36. Mil. pay statement
39. Impure quartz stones
40. Fruit
41. Russian space station
43. Belt
44. Shrugs off
45. Shrek

46. Car lot price, in short
47. CACs
48. Cut
49. Boxing outcomes
50. Abominable snowman
54. Korean currency

By Capt Tony Wickman
71st Flying Training Wing
Public Affairs

44th Security Police Group targeted for test program first week of February 1976 ...



... Defense officials selected the 44th Security Police Group, assigned to Ellsworth's 44th Strategic Missile Wing, for a test program designed to assess the security police career field, job satisfaction and working conditions, and quality of life concerns.

The selection of Ellsworth's security police came on the heels of the Group's selection as outstanding security police group in the 15th Air Force.

The testing primarily consist-

ed of having personnel fill out questionnaires related to their duties.

The study also utilized focus groups with senior non-commissioned officers, cadre and Airmen to gather information.

In the end, the study revealed that Airmen would be happier with more time off rather than dormitory improvements, which was one of the major questions posed by the research.

As our contemporary security forces begin to evolve into

something different, it's important to realize that change is a constant factor in the armed forces.

Just as security forces now must be ready for the changes that will affect them; our security police in 1976 also had to deal with the possibility of organizational change.

To learn more, or for historical questions, call the 28th Bomb Wing History Office at 385-6430 or e-mail 28bw.ho@ellsworth.af.mil.

This week in History

Information provided by Mr. David Schepp,
28th Bomb Wing historian.